

approval of the above drawing changes is respectfully requested. These drawing changes were approved in the great-great-grandparent application, Serial No. 08/367,844.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Page 32, lines 1-13, please delete the Abstract and substitute the following new Abstract:

--ABSTRACT

Illumination of a portion of a vehicle interior is provided by an interior rearview mirror assembly incorporating a solid-state light source comprising a light emitting diode (LED) which emits light generally downwardly from the assembly. In one form of the invention, the mirror case of the rearview mirror assembly includes at least one of an opening, a light conduit, and a fiberoptic element through which the LED emits light. In another form, the LED preferably has a luminous intensity of at least 500 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA. The LED preferably has a dominant wavelength of at least about 530 nm. The light emitted by the LED may be selected from green, orange, yellow, amber, reddish-orange, red and blue. The vehicle interior portion may include at least one of a shift lever console and a floor console.--

A new page including this amended Abstract is included.

IN THE CLAIMS:

- ✓ Please cancel claims 1-83 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please add the following new claims 84-218 prior to calculation of the filing fee.

84. An interior rearview mirror assembly for mounting on a vehicle comprising:

- a mirror case, said case including a bottom portion;
- a reflective mirror element;
- a support for securing said assembly on the vehicle;
- a solid-state light source, said light source positioned for emitting light generally downwardly from said bottom portion of said mirror case when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle;

said solid-state light source comprising a light emitting diode;

said solid-state light source positioned to emit light to provide illumination of a portion of the vehicle interior below said mirror assembly when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle and when said solid-state light source is electrically powered; and

wherein said mirror case includes at least one of:

- a) an opening, said light emitting diode emitting light through said opening when powered,
- b) a light conduit, said light emitting diode emitting light through said light conduit when powered, and
- c) a fiberoptic element, said light emitting diode emitting light through said fiberoptic element when powered.

85. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said mirror case includes an opening, said light emitting diode emitting light through said opening when powered, said opening including a lens.

86. The mirror assembly of claim 85 wherein said lens closes said opening.

87. The mirror assembly of claim 85 wherein said lens snap-fits in said opening.

88. The mirror assembly of claim 85 wherein said lens comprises at least one of a Fresnel lens, a binary optic, a refractive optic and a holographic optic.

89. The mirror assembly of claim 85 wherein said lens comprises a refractive optic.

90. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said mirror case includes a light conduit, said light emitting diode emitting light through said light conduit when powered, said light conduit having an inner wall.

91. The mirror assembly of claim 90 wherein said inner wall is adapted to diffusely reflect light.

92. The mirror assembly of claim 91 wherein said inner wall comprises a diffuse reflecting material.

93. The mirror assembly of claim 90 wherein said inner wall is adapted to specularly reflect light.

94. The mirror assembly of claim 93 wherein said inner wall comprises a specularly reflecting material.

95. The mirror assembly of claim 90 wherein said light conduit is formed separate from said mirror case.

96. The mirror assembly of claim 90 wherein said light conduit is formed integral with said mirror case.

97. The mirror assembly of claim 96 wherein said light conduit is formed integral with said mirror case by molding.

98. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said mirror case includes a fiberoptic element, said fiberoptic element comprising at least one of a fiberoptic cable and a fiberoptic bundle.

99. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity of at least 500 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

100. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity of at least 700 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

101. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity in the range of about 500 mcd to about 7000 mcd when said solid-state light source is powered in the vehicle.

102. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 1 volt.

103. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 2 volts.

104. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage less than about 5 volts.

105. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode that emits light with a dominant wavelength within the range of about 530 nm to about 680 nm.

106. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode emitting light having a color selected from the group consisting of green, orange, yellow, amber, reddish-orange, red and blue.

107. The mirror assembly of claim 106 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

108. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

109. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 200 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

110. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

111. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 50 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

112. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a current within the range of about 20 mA to about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

113. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode providing illumination of between about 0.2 and 4.0 lux at a distance of about 22 to 26 inches from said diode.

114. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the windshield for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

115. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield and a header area adjacent the windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the header area of the vehicle for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

116. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises a prismatic rearview mirror element.

117. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises an electro-optic rearview mirror element.

118. The mirror assembly of claim 117 wherein said electro-optic rearview mirror element comprises an electrochromic rearview mirror element.

119. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said portion includes a shift lever console.

120. The mirror assembly of claim 119 wherein said shift lever console comprises a transmission selector indicator panel.

121. The mirror assembly of claim 119 wherein said shift lever console comprises at least one of a transmission selector indicator panel, a bin, a cup holder, an ashtray and a switch.

122. The mirror assembly of claim 119 wherein said shift lever console is located at the floor centerline of the vehicle.

123. The mirror assembly of claim 84 wherein said portion includes a floor console.

124. An interior rearview mirror assembly for mounting on a vehicle comprising:

- a mirror case, said case including a bottom portion;

- a reflective mirror element;

- a support for securing said assembly on the vehicle;

- a solid-state light source, said light source positioned for emitting light

generally downwardly from said bottom portion of said mirror case when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle;

- said solid-state light source comprising a light emitting diode;

- said solid-state light source positioned to emit light to provide illumination of a portion of the vehicle interior below said mirror assembly when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle and when said solid-state light source is electrically powered;

- wherein said mirror case includes an opening, said light emitting diode emitting light through said opening when powered; and

- wherein said light emitting diode emits light having a color selected from the group consisting of green, orange, yellow, amber, reddish-orange, red and blue.

125. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said opening includes a lens.

126. The mirror assembly of claim 125 wherein said lens closes said opening.

127. The mirror assembly of claim 125 wherein said lens snap-fits in said opening.

128. The mirror assembly of claim 125 wherein said lens comprises at least one of a Fresnel lens, a binary optic, a refractive optic and a holographic optic.

129. The mirror assembly of claim 125 wherein said lens comprises a refractive optic.

130. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity of at least 500 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

131. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity of at least 700 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

132. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode having a luminous intensity in the range of about 500 mcd to about 7000 mcd when said solid-state light source is powered in the vehicle.

133. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 1 volt.

134. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 2 volts.

135. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage less than about 5 volts.

136. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode that emits light with a dominant wavelength within the range of about 530 nm to about 680 nm.

137. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode emitting light having a color selected from the group consisting of amber and red.

138. The mirror assembly of claim 137 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light

emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

139. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

140. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 200 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

141. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

142. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 50 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

143. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a current within the range of about 20 mA to about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

144. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode providing illumination of between about 0.2 and 4.0 lux at a distance of about 22 to 26 inches from said diode.

145. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the windshield for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

146. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield and a header area adjacent the windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the header



area of the vehicle for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

147. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises a prismatic rearview mirror element.

148. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises an electro-optic rearview mirror element.

149. The mirror assembly of claim 148 wherein said electro-optic rearview mirror element comprises an electrochromic rearview mirror element.

150. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said portion includes a shift lever console.

151. The mirror assembly of claim 150 wherein said shift lever console comprises a transmission selector indicator panel.

152. The mirror assembly of claim 150 wherein said shift lever console comprises at least one of a transmission selector indicator panel, a bin, a cup holder, an ashtray and a switch.

153. The mirror assembly of claim 150 wherein said shift lever console is located at the floor centerline of the vehicle.

154. The mirror assembly of claim 124 wherein said portion includes a floor console.

155. An interior rearview mirror assembly for mounting on a vehicle comprising:

- a mirror case, said case including a bottom portion;

- a reflective mirror element;

- a support for securing said assembly on the vehicle;

- a solid-state light source, said light source positioned for emitting light

generally downwardly from said bottom portion of said mirror case when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle;

- said solid-state light source comprising a light emitting diode;

- said solid-state light source positioned to emit light to provide illumination of a

portion of the vehicle interior below said mirror assembly when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle and when said solid-state light source is electrically powered;

wherein said mirror case includes an opening, said light emitting diode emitting light through said opening when powered; and

wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity of at least 500 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

156. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said opening includes a lens.

157. The mirror assembly of claim 156 wherein said lens closes said opening.

158. The mirror assembly of claim 156 wherein said lens snap-fits in said opening

159. The mirror assembly of claim 156 wherein said lens comprises at least one of a Fresnel lens, a binary optic, a refractive optic and a holographic optic.

160. The mirror assembly of claim 156 wherein said lens comprises a refractive optic.

161. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said light emitting diode emits light having a color selected from the group consisting of green, orange, yellow, amber, reddish-orange, red and blue.

162. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity of at least 700 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

163. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity in the range of about 500 mcd to about 7000 mcd when said solid-state light source is powered in the vehicle.

164. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 1 volt.

165. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light

emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 2 volts.

166. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage less than about 5 volts.

167. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode that emits light with a dominant wavelength within the range of about 530 nm to about 680 nm.

168. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode emitting light having a color selected from the group consisting of amber and red.

169. The mirror assembly of claim 168 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

170. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

171. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 200 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

172. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

173. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 50 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

174. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a current within the range of about 20 mA to about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

175. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode providing illumination of between about 0.2 and 4.0 lux at a distance of about 22 to 26 inches from said diode.

176. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the windshield for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

177. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield and a header area adjacent the windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the header area of the vehicle for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

178. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises a prismatic rearview mirror element.

179. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises an electro-optic rearview mirror element.

180. The mirror assembly of claim 179 wherein said electro-optic rearview mirror element comprises an electrochromic rearview mirror element.

181. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said portion includes a shift lever console.

182. The mirror assembly of claim 181 wherein said shift lever console comprises a transmission selector indicator panel.

183. The mirror assembly of claim 181 wherein said shift lever console comprises at least one of a transmission selector indicator panel, a bin, a cup holder, an ashtray and a switch.

184. The mirror assembly of claim 181 wherein said shift lever console is located at the floor centerline of the vehicle.

185. The mirror assembly of claim 155 wherein said portion includes a floor console.

186. An interior rearview mirror assembly for mounting on a vehicle comprising:

- a mirror case;

- a reflective mirror element;

- a support for securing said assembly on the vehicle;

- a solid-state light source, said light source incorporated as part of said mirror assembly and positioned for emitting light generally downwardly from a bottom portion of said assembly when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle;

- said solid-state light source comprising a light emitting diode;

- said solid-state light source positioned to emit light to provide illumination of a portion of the vehicle interior below said mirror assembly when said assembly is mounted on the vehicle and when said solid-state light source is electrically powered;

- wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity of at least 500 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

187. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said mirror case includes an opening, said light emitting diode emitting light through said opening when powered

188. The mirror assembly of claim 187 wherein said opening includes a lens.

189. The mirror assembly of claim 188 wherein said lens closes said opening.

190. The mirror assembly of claim 188 wherein said lens snap-fits in said opening.

191. The mirror assembly of claim 188 wherein said lens comprises at least one of a Fresnel lens, a binary optic, a refractive optic and a holographic optic.

192. The mirror assembly of claim 188 wherein said lens comprises a refractive optic.

193. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said light emitting diode emits light having a color selected from the group consisting of green, orange, yellow, amber, reddish-orange, red and blue.

194. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity of at least 700 mcd when operated at a forward current of 20 mA.

195. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said light emitting diode has a luminous intensity in the range of about 500 mcd to about 7000 mcd when said solid-state light source is powered in the vehicle.

196. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 1 volt.

197. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage of at least about 2 volts.

198. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a forward voltage less than about 5 volts.

199. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode that emits light with a dominant wavelength within the range of about 530 nm to about 680 nm.

200. The mirror assembly of claim 199 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode emitting light having a color selected from the group consisting of amber and red.

201. The mirror assembly of claim 200 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

202. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light

emitting diode formed from a material including at least one of aluminum, indium, gallium, arsenic and phosphorous.

203. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 200 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

204. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

205. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source operates at a current less than about 50 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

206. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode operated at a current within the range of about 20 mA to about 100 mA when said solid-state light source is mounted and operated in the vehicle.

207. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said solid-state light source comprises a light emitting diode providing illumination of between about 0.2 and 4.0 lux at a distance of about 22 to 26 inches from said diode.

208. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the windshield for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

209. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein the vehicle includes a windshield and a header area adjacent the windshield, said support being adapted for connection to the header area of the vehicle for mounting said assembly on the vehicle.

210. The mirror assembly of claim 186 wherein said reflective mirror element comprises a prismatic rearview mirror element.